

different things other than this country is becoming increasingly polarized between the rich and the poor. There are more people who are sliding out of the middle class into the poor class. In the last eight years, according to the state government article that I passed out to you, have been horror years...again, you will have this on your desks, from the state government news, have essentially been horror years in terms of what has happened to the middle class and to the poor. The numbers of poor in our society are increasing and states are not dealing with the problem adequately. This bill is simply designed to put more cash into an already impoverished community to provide more benefits for our children. ADC, essentially, is the children's program. It's their due. You should keep that in mind as you consider this piece of legislation. Finally, you should remember, the children that we are to help here and their parents, to a large extent, represent our future. These are little ones whose lives can be warped and twisted and terribly disturbed if they don't get good starts and I suspect that you and I have got to sit here as super parents, do the best job we can making certain that our little ones get as fine a start as we can do. And I know that we have done a terrible job in terms of our cash allowances to our needy children. I ask your indulgence. This is a high cost bill but in the greater scheme of things, a small cost bill.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Discussion on the Johnson motion to advance 518. Senator Moore.

SENATOR MOORE: Mr. Speaker, members of the body, I, too, have a few things for you to put in your note pad here in a second, so don't go away yet. But I want to preface my remarks by outlining to all of you folks a letter sent out by Senator Vard Johnson, a letter sent out to all of our school superintendents when he is talking about the need for funding for education this year. And the purpose of this letter is to outline to those superintendents the threat of a certain bill towards educational funding in the State of Nebraska. And he talks about the Governor's appropriation and what great things it's going to do. In the letter, he goes, one of those pet proposals is LB 972, the bill that was recently advanced in Revenue Committee over my objections. We all know what 972 would do. That would exempt farm machinery to the tune of...the fiscal note, at least, is \$4.5 million. He closes by, if you feel that scarce state resources are better appropriated to education as opposed to an exemption for farm equipment, please contact your state senator.